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Draft
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The general conceptual approach taken to the ABM study is
illustrated schematically in Figure 1. In simple terms, the problem
includes defining the task (specifying an observable set), describing the
available means of its accomplishment (specifying the capabilities of an
ensemble of collectors) and computing the incremental effectiveness of
alternative changes in the collector ensemble.

With respect to the first, the task ranges from specification of
our already extensive knowledge of the current Soviet ABM System all the
way to specification of all the required information about an as yet
unworked on new ABM system. It appear certain that this wide range
would cover any day-to-day real life situation. Furthermore, the type
and detail of information required for different purposes, that is, by
different consumers, may introduce potentially different results. The
initial attempt to treat these two variables will be to determine if their
impact on the study results is significant. If this proves to be true, then
obviously, two alternatives appear; the first, to narrow the range of these
variables so that there is negligible loss in the degree to which their
ranges cover anticipated real life, hoping that this reduction would reduce
the impact on study results to insignificance, and the second, display
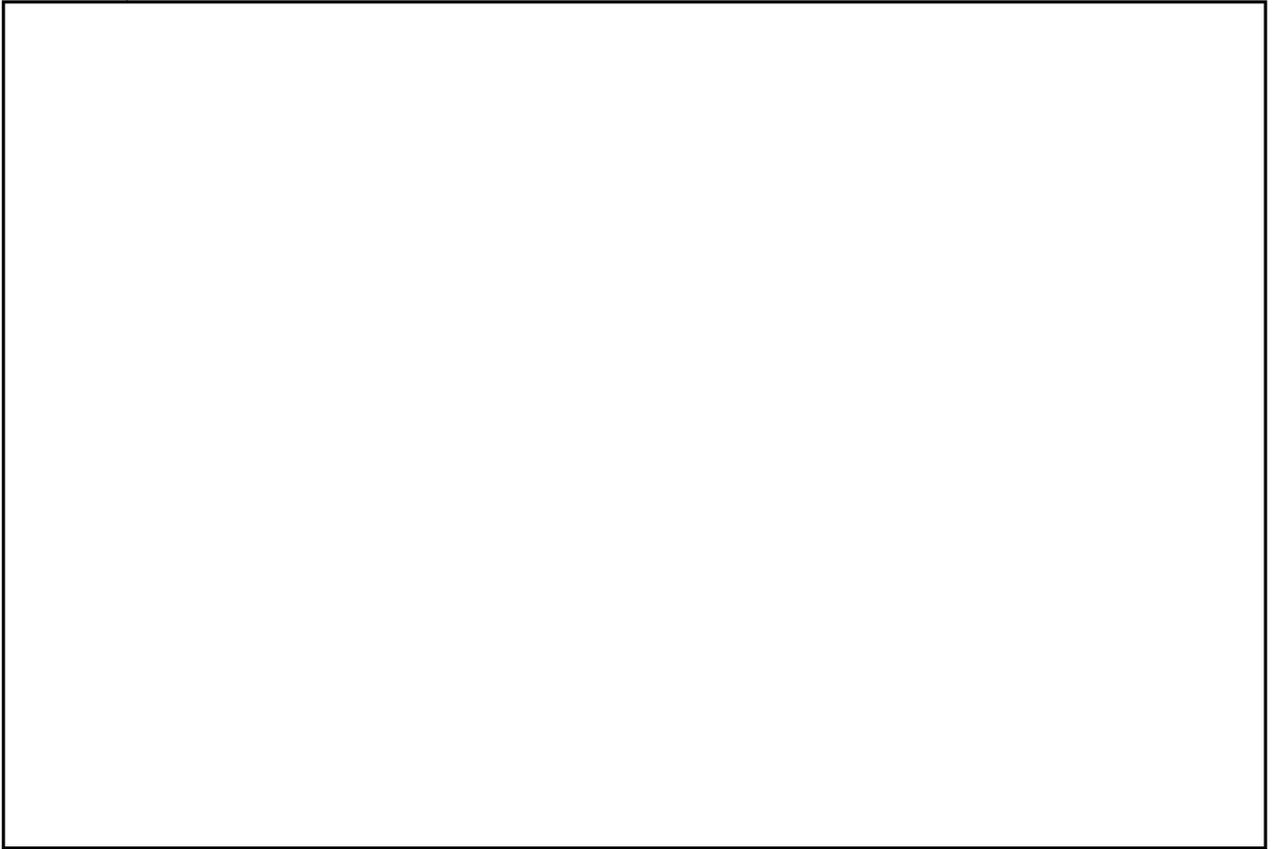alternative results for appropriate sub-ranges of the variables.

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The current status of the ABM study can be explained by reference to Figure 1. Boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4 are essentially complete. Box 5 has not yet been completely filled. Boxes 6 and 7 are in process and work on Box 8 will be started within a week or two. The work in Box 9 logically would benefit to a great degree from the sensitivity tests to be run in Box 8 and in any event will need somewhat more work in Box 5.

A likely schedule, expressed in a functional form, might be as follows:

1. Specify existing information data base and relate value to observation accuracy -- 3 weeks.

2. Program and check out on computer and investigate precision needed in subset selection -- 4 weeks.

3. Finalize collector capabilities and put in required format -- 2 weeks.

4. Identify guides to observable subsets -- 1 week.

5. Develop relative values of observable subsets (OSD/SA) -- 5 weeks.

6. Make runs directly relating to desired type of results (must follow at least step 2) -- 3 weeks.

7. Preparation of final report -- 2 weeks.

The above time estimates are based on the expectation of having available the following iterim assistance:

-- From NSA, DIA and CIA - a series of 1/2 day consultations with the persons who filled in the collector capability forms in order to accomplish Step 3.

-- From NSA and State - one competent (and cleared) systems analyst (or Operations Researcher) for 3 weeks from each.

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-- From DIA - one competent substantive intelligence analyst for

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With the above support and with the quantitative input from OSD/SA assumed available on 30 May, the study could be completed by no later

than 15 June. This tight time schedule assumes a concurrent attack

on practically every problem. Without the additional support, it is just

possible to meet this time schedule but at an unknown, but considerable

loss in the number of variations and degree of refinement in the results.